

# Adaptation of a representative university building from the mid-nineteenth XIX century to office functions

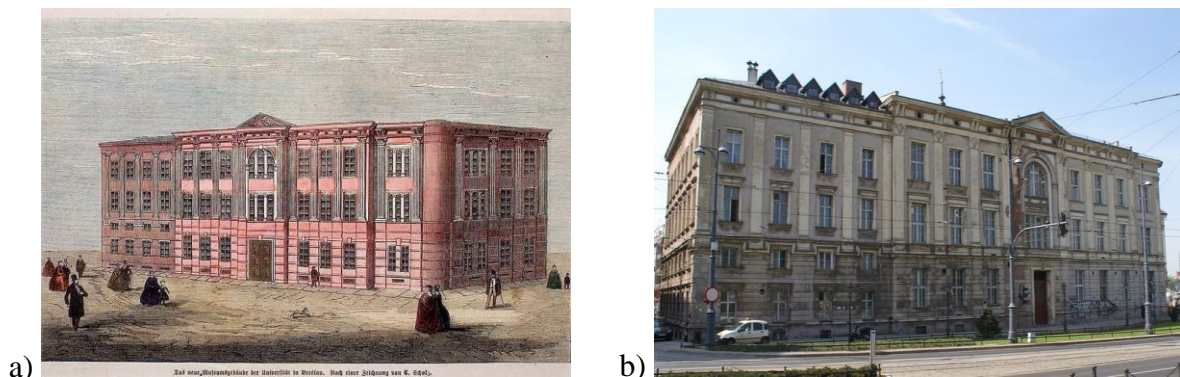
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## ABSTRACT

The conservation of historical buildings plays an important role to enhance the sustainable built environment of the city. Adaptive re-use of historical buildings has become a wider revitalization way to protect historical buildings' significance. In this paper, the subject of the analysis is the adaptation of the University three-story building from 1866 with exceptional artistic qualities, designed by the excellent Wroclaw architect T. Milczewski. Originally, the building was multifunctional, the Institute of Pharmacy was located on the ground floor of the building, which continued the traditions of the University pharmacy, founded by the Leopoldina authorities, and later leased by the Wilhelminian University. The main entrance to the building led through a representative vestibule and staircase. The upper floors were occupied by a museum with mineralogical, petrographic and paleontological collections. The side wing of the building served as residential and auxiliary functions. During the II war in 1945, the main body of the building was seriously damaged. After the war, the building was handed over to the Medical Department of the University and Wroclaw University of Technology. It was designated as the headquarters of the Pharmaceutical Department. At that time, basic renovation works necessary for use were made. Currently, the building is undergoing renovation, the purpose of which is to change the function into an office building. During the renovation, it is planned to replace the floor slab with Rector type, to change the construction of the rafter framing with the use of a steel frame that will be supported on reinforced concrete beams. The greatest value of the building is its façade with excellent proportions, which perfectly fits into the spatial context and the development of this part of the city. For this reason, the preservation of the building's body is the most important. The paper presents a detailed analysis of the planned renovation and problems resulting from the change of the function of the historic building. In addition, it shows the benefits of re-use of historical buildings based on conservation experts points of views.



Institute of Pharmacy: a) 1866 (graphics made by C. Scholz), b) nowadays